

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed December 29, 2003, the Examiner rejected claims 1 to 20. This Response "A" cancels no claims, amends claims 1 to 20, and adds no new claims. Accordingly, claims 1 to 20 remain pending in this application.

Claims 1 to 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Independent claims 1 and 20 have been amended to include the structural limitations of computer implementation. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claim 17 was objected to because of a typographical error in which the word "invent" was inadvertently used in the place of the word "event". Claim 17 has been amended to correct the typographical error. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claims 1 to 13 and 16 to 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Chacker (US 6,578,008).

Claims 1 to 13 and 16 to 20 are allowable for novel and nonobvious matter contained therein. Additionally, enclosed herewith is a Declaration under 35 C.F.R. 1.131 which clearly demonstrates that the subject matter of independent claims 1 and 20 were conceived and completed prior to January 12, 2000, the filing date of Chacker. Because applicant has sworn behind Chacker, it is no longer available for this 102(e) rejection. There being no other prior art rejection, applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 to 13 and 16 to 20 are now allowable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claims 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Chacker (US 6,578,008) in view of Haseltine et al. (US 6,578,015).

Claims 14 and 15 are each allowable as depending from allowable independent claim 1, as discussed above, and independently allowable for the novel and nonobvious matter contained therein. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is found that the present amendment does not place the application in a condition for allowance, applicant's undersigned attorney requests that the examiner initiate a telephone interview to expedite prosecution of the application.

If there are any fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-2326.

Respectfully submitted,

PORTER, WRIGHT, MORRIS & ARTHUR LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard M. Mescher', is written over a horizontal line.

Richard M. Mescher, Reg. No. 38,242

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April 19, 2004